



MEMO
FROM THE DESK OF
SERGEANT STEVE MINNICH
INVESTIGATOR



Internal Affairs Section

E-mail = sminnich@Sheriff.Hamilton-co.org

Telephone 513-946-6652

To: Chief Mark Schoonover

Date: July 13, 2015

Re: Internal Affairs Investigation IA#46-15 Deputy Kenneth Pendleton

On July 13, 2015 Lt. William Rarrick received an official complaint in reference to an incident that occurred on June 30, 2015 at the Hamilton County Court House, located at 1000 Main Street Cincinnati Ohio 45202. On June 30, 2015 the complainant, Felicia Brock, female white, DOB 9/11/89, cntl# 2702683, p/s (614) 601-7601, ss# [REDACTED], resides at 8000 Hamilton Ave. Cincinnati Ohio 45231, filed a complaint claiming that she was the subject of religious discrimination and was unjustly detained for eight hours. Ms. Brock claims the officers verbally accused her of being a terrorist on a suicide mission. She also claims that the officers prevented her from praying and was told to "sit the fuck down and don't let me treat you like a kid."

The following is the content of the complaint that was written by her Attorney John Banner, (513) 221-5510, cell# (513)479-5510 on behalf of Ms. Brock:

On June 30, 2015 as I entered the Hamilton County Courthouse, I was the subject of religious discrimination and unjustly detained for 8 hours while Sheriff's personnel examined my harmless personal possessions. My Muslim garb led Sheriff's personnel to verbally accuse me of being a "terrorist" on a "suicide mission." Despite the prohibitions of my faith prohibiting a man not my husband from touching me I was roughly grabbed by the arms and handcuffed behind my back. During this ordeal, I was prevented from praying and was told to "sit the fuck down and don't let me treat you like a kid." Despite their abuse I remained cooperative at all times. When I was released later that afternoon, Sheriff's personnel retained my perfume bottle, ice pack, and suitcase. As a result of the foregoing, I claim monetary damages for my unjust imprisonment and religious discrimination, as well as the return of all my personnel property.

Contained in the case file is the official complaint from Felicia Brock, a copy of CIS Detective Doug Todd's investigative report, Court Service Deputy Kenneth Pendleton's "Critical Incident" report, (along with a CDR), detailing a time line of the event and five witness statements, "Advice of Rights" form, statements from Deputy Donald Maher, Sgt. Gary Wolfzorn, Deputy Rick Snow, Lt. Dennis Brogan, and Deputy Emily Rose. There is also a copy of a Facebook post from Felicia Brock's account, showing a check for \$1,000.00 and a statement above the check that says "Allah is good," and an email from the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center and a report from the Greater Cincinnati Fusion Center. Also included in the case file are interview recordings and transcripts from the "CIS" interview and Sgt. Wolfzorn and Deputy Pendleton's interview with Felicia Brock and her criminal counsel, Attorney James Bogan, that took place at the court house. During the course of this report I will be focusing on the complaints that Ms. Brock raised about the deputies behavior through the course of this incident. The above listed



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documents are contained in the case file. For details about the criminal investigation, review those documents.

This complaint originated from information received by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Media Officer, Mike Robison. M.O. Robison said he had received information from Attorney John Banner, about setting up a meeting with the Sheriff and the Chief to discuss alleged bad behavior from deputies in dealing with this incident. Attorney Banner also sent a letter to the Sheriff requesting a meeting between him, his client, Felicia Brock, and the Sheriff. The Sheriff decided to respond to Attorney Banner by having Lt. Rarrick, Internal Affairs Section, send Attorney Banner an "Official Complaint" form so that this incident could be investigated. It is to be noted that a meeting between Attorney Banner, his client, Ms. Brock and the Sheriff never took place. The "Official Complaint" was received at which time Lt. Rarrick requested that I investigate this incident.

On July 20th at approximately 1129 hours, I called Ms. Brock in order to let her know that I would be investigating this incident. I asked her if she had thought of any other information that she had forgot to list in her report. She said that she did not have any new information, so I asked her if I could ask some follow up questions and she said "yes." The first question I asked was, "If she had ever been in the Hamilton County Court House before this incident?", and she immediately said "No." I responded to her by saying "are you sure?" At which time she said she had an attorney. I told her that she had a right to call him and I could deal with him directly. She hung up and I received a phone call back from Attorney Banner and he explained that Ms. Brock was also on the phone line. He then informed me that she has a right to have representation and he was representing her. I explained that she absolutely has a right to representation but the reason I called her directly was because she had filed a complaint against deputies. I wanted to let her know I was investigating this incident and to see if she had any new information that she may have thought of since she filed the complaint. I informed Attorney Banner that I would rather deal with him because Ms. Brock's integrity is in question because she had already lied to me about never being in the court house prior to this incident. Ms. Brock was still on the line when I told Attorney Banner this information at which time she stated that she could not understand me because of a bad phone connection. It was interesting that there wasn't a bad phone connection prior to me asking the first question. Attorney Banner asked Ms. Brock to hang the phone up and that he would talk to me without her. Attorney Banner did not have any new information about this incident. Attorney Banner took me off guard when he said that if we threw a little money at Ms. Brock she would go "away." He continued by saying that in the past he has dealt with issues like this with the City of Cincinnati before they went to litigation, that way the media did not get involved. He went on to say that he would hate for the media to report that "Deputy Sheriffs roughed up a Muslim woman." I told him that he could do what he had to do. I continued by saying that I would gather the facts and let the "chips fall where they may" and that any discussions over financial settlements would have to take place between the Sheriff and the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.



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On July 21, 2015 at approximately 1236 hours, Deputy Kenneth Pendleton responded to the Internal Affairs Section for an interview. Deputy Pendleton said that on June 30th, 2015 at approximately 7:10 hours, he was in the Court House lobby on the first floor at which time the night security officer unlocked the doors. Ms. Brock came in and was told that she could put her personal items in the corner at which time she made two trips. She was then told that she had to wait outside until 7:50 hours. Deputy Pendleton and Cpl. Maher started working the metal detector at which time Ms. Brock walked up to the metal detector with two suitcases and a few plastic bags. Cpl. Maher had to lift the bigger suitcase onto the conveyor and it barely fit into the x-ray machine. Cpl. Maher noticed what appeared to be an older style hand grenade in the suitcase while it was being scanned. Deputy Pendleton said he looked and he agreed with Cpl. Maher at which time they decided to divert the line of people to the other side of the lobby. Ms. Brock had walked through the scanner and was approximately ten feet away from the suitcase when she turned around and said "you're doing this because I am a Muslim." Cpl. Maher and Deputy Pendleton were having a conversation and Ms. Brock was interrupting them. I asked if Deputy Pendleton knew she was a Muslim and he said she was dressed like a Muslim but he never gave it a thought. He went on to say that he had dealings with her in the past but there was never an issue. Deputy Pendleton said that Cpl. Maher had to get people diverted and he called for the "bomb dog" to respond because they were not sure what was in the suitcase. Deputy Pendleton stayed with Ms. Brock because he was not sure what was in the suitcase. Ms. Brock kept trying to walk towards the bags but Deputy Pendleton knew that Cpl. Fischesser, (bomb dog) handler was coming and he told Ms. Brock to come with him so he could get them out of harm's way. Ms. Brock became more vocal and started saying "you're doing this because I am Muslim", "the way I'm dressed", "you're profiling me", "I'm going to sue you", and "I want your name and badge number." This took place in the lobby before the "bomb dog" arrived. Deputy Pendleton said to Ms. Brock that there was something suspicious in her bag but she would not give an explanation about what the item was and repeated "you're doing this because of the way I am dressed." When Cpl. Fischesser arrived and while his "bomb dog" was sniffing the suitcase he alerted twice, on the bag, at which time Cpl. Fischesser looked at Deputy Pendleton and said "we got to get out of here." When Cpl. Fischesser said that to Deputy Pendleton, he immediately told Ms. Brock that she was going to be put in handcuffs and escorted to a safer area. He told her that she was being detained but she was not under arrest. Deputy Pendleton said Ms. Brock willingly put her hands behind her back and as he was walking through room 115 he was yelling for the people in the area to exit the building. Ms. Brock continued to say "you're doing this because of the way I am dressed" and he told her "no, it is because the dog alerted on your suitcase." Deputy Pendleton took her to the "Court Service Office and handcuffed her to the bench. Deputy Pendleton read her "Miranda Rights" in front of Deputy Emily Rose, and Sergeant Rick Snow, at which time she requested her attorney. Sergeant Rick Snow was able to call her attorney, James Bogan. After Attorney Bogan arrived, Sgt. Wolfzorn and Deputy Pendleton interviewed Ms. Brock. The interview with Ms. Brock was recorded and the recording and transcription is contained in the case file. During the course of the day Ms. Brock was taken outside to smoke and to the vending machine. Deputy Pendleton said they tried to accommodate her. Deputy Pendleton said Ms. Brock never asked to pray. He



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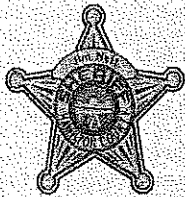
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said at no time did anyone disrespect Ms. Brock and everyone was very professional. Deputy Pendleton said that he has noticed her in the court house approximately five times within the last year and there had never been an issue. Deputy Pendleton said on a daily bases he is in contact with people that dress like Muslims or other religions and in the last twenty five years he has never had an to detain them for a suspicious item. Deputy Pendleton said that Ms. Brock was respectful until she had an audience then she started acting like she was being detained wrongfully. The interview with Deputy Pendleton was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On July 22, 2015 Media Officer, Mike Robison responded to the Internal Affairs Section and was interviewed by Lt. Rarrick and I. M.O. Robison said that at some point between June 28th and July 4th, 2015 he received a phone call from Attorney John Banner and he said "well you are the P.R. guy for the Sheriff and I'm sure you would want to make sure that he stays in a good light" or "something like that." Mr. Banner said he had worked for the city previously and that he had handled some lawsuits previously with officer involved shooting or different things like that. He said he was able to successfully resolve those through back channels with the city administration, city manager, and he got small settlements, before it would go to a lawsuit. Mr. Banner continued by saying that this woman had retained him and he would like to see if something similar could be worked out. M.O. Robison said he told Mr. Banner that he is not involved in the legal side of things, "you know there's the Prosecutor's Office and everything else, I'm just P.R. and everything else." Attorney Banner said "I get that but certainly you want again to make sure that the Sheriff doesn't get in the middle of some media frenzy" and M.O. Robison said "well, that's always my goal but again I'm not involved in the legal process or any of that stuff." Mr. Banner then asked M.O. Robison if he could send a letter to the Sheriff to get the "ball rolling"?

On July 6th, 2015, when M.O. Robison arrived back to work he met with the Sheriff to discuss media issues and to tell him about what Mr. Banner had asked of him. The Sheriff told M.O. Robinson that Mr. Banner could file some sort of written complaint, but until he received something in writing he did not know what Mr. Banner wanted. M.O. Robison told the Sheriff, "well Sheriff that again, this isn't my role, but I would assume you would want the Prosecutor's Office involved or whatever you want to make sure things are covered and so do you want to set up a meeting with Keith Clepper and you know, you and the Chief so that I can make sure Keith as the Liaison of the Prosecutor's Office is well aware of what conversation I had with John and he said sure, why don't we do that." "Karen put a meeting on the calendar for the next morning." Keith called M.O. Robison and said that he could not meet the next morning and that he, M.O. Robison should not be getting involved in these issues. M.O. Robison said that he was not trying to but he just wanted to let everyone know about the conversation he had with Mr. Banner. The next morning he had to meet with the Sheriff and the Chief on other issues so that is when he caught the Chief up on the conversation he had with Mr. Banner.



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Lt. Rarrick asked if Mr. Banner wanted to meet with the Sheriff and the Chief. M.O. Robison said that Mr. Banner his client, Ms. Brock was coming down to meet with him and that at some point they would like to meet with the Sheriff and the Chief. Mr. Banner told M.O. Robison that "he thinks it would go a long way if the Sheriff would meet with her and just apologize or offer some small monetary, you know kind of throw a little, some dollars at her and meet with her and say I'm sorry, he said that would go a long way." M.O. Robison said "you know, John, this goes at the pace it goes and again I don't have any idea, they need to get." The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On July 24, 2015 at approximately 0747 hrs., Cpl. Donald Maher responded to the Internal Affairs Section and was interviewed by Lt. William Rarrick. On the day of this incident Cpl. Maher said he was working with CSO Pendleton at the "metal detector" in the court house lobby. Cpl. Maher remembered Ms. Brock coming into the court house lobby with many bags and he and CSO Pendleton, together had to lift the large suitcase up on to the x-ray machine. When the suitcase was being scanned he noticed what appeared to be a "pineapple grenade", so he had CSO Pendleton look at the screen and they both agreed the contents looked suspicious. Ms. Brock had already gone through the metal detector and was standing near the conveyer when the suspicious contents were noticed on the monitor. Ms. Brock could not see the monitor from where she was standing. After the suspicious item was noticed CSO Pendleton started talking to Ms. Brock. Cpl. Maher said he could not hear what was being said but he could tell she was not being cooperative. While CSO Pendleton was dealing with Ms. Brock, Cpl. Maher stopped the public from coming into the lobby area. Cpl. Maher said he moved the public to the north end of the lobby. Cpl. Maher said his contact with CSO Pendleton and Ms. Brock was limited because he was busy with moving the public and making notification to his lieutenant. Then the K-9, "bomb dog" arrived and he had to assist with securing the area. Cpl. Maher said he had limited contact with Ms. Brock throughout the day however he may have escorted her outside in order for her to smoke a cigarette. Cpl. Maher said that her behavior was suspicious do to the fact that the item that was in her suitcase and then when she was questioned, she was uncooperative. The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On July 29, 2015 at approximately 0815 hours Sergeant Gary Wolfzorn responded to the Internal Affairs Section and was interviewed by me. Sergeant Wolfzorn is in charge of the Fugitive Warrants section within the Court Services Section. Sergeant Wolfzorn said that on the day in question he was in his office when he was informed that they were going to be evacuating the court house. Sergeant Wolfzorn immediately assisted in evacuating and setting up posts in the court house. After he assisted he went back to his office and at approximately 1000 hours, CSO Pendleton asked him if he would assist him with interviewing Ms. Brock. It is to be noted that the interview was recorded and a copy of the recording and transcription are contained in the case file. Ms. Brock did not want to say anything until her attorney arrived. Once her attorney, James Bogan arrived the interview began. The interview lasted approximately fifteen minutes; details about the interview are in the transcription and the recording, and are contained in the case file. After their interview ended, CIS detectives interviewed her. Her Attorney James



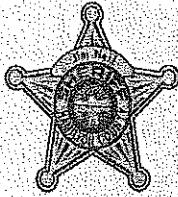
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Bogan remained with her throughout the interviews. Sergeant Wolfzorn was asked if he or anyone discriminated against Ms. Brock because of her religion and he said "no." Sergeant Wolfzorn said that he had never seen Ms. Brock in the court house. Sergeant Wolfzorn was asked; if at any time he heard any one refer to Ms. Brock as a terrorist and he said "no." Sergeant Wolfzorn said he did not see anyone grab her in an aggressive manner. He said that when the officers brought her into the office they sat her on a bench and she was crying a little bit. Ms. Brock made a statement about the officers discriminating against her and Sergeant Wolfzorn explained to her that it had nothing to do with her religion and that they just wanted to ask her some questions. She never complained of any injuries and she just appeared to be upset. Ms. Brock claimed that she was denied prayer time and Sergeant Wolfzorn said that at no time did Ms. Brock ask to pray. Sergeant Wolfzorn was asked if at any time did anyone tell her "to sit the fuck down" and he said "no sir." Sergeant Wolfzorn said that at no time was the interview with Ms. Brock confrontational. Sergeant Wolfzorn said that Ms. Brock was given the opportunity to use the restroom and to smoke. He also said that she was taken to the vending machines for food. The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On July 31, 2015 at approximately 1040 hours, CSO Emily Rose # 207 responded to the Internal Affairs Section for an interview. CSO Rose is currently assigned to the Court and Jail Services Unit and was working when this incident took place. CSO Rose said she heard someone talking on the Hamilton County Radio and it sounded like there was a serious incident that was taking place. She immediately arrived in the lobby and attempted to assist with the incident. She noticed Cpl Maher and CSO Pendleton near the south side of the lobby. While she was there Cpl. Fischesser arrived on scene with his "bomb dog." CSO Rose assisted in evacuating the lobby and closing the front doors. CSO Rose said she "patted" down Ms. Brock for their safety. CSO Rose said that on two occasions after Ms. Brock was taken to their office, she walked her to the restroom. CSO Rose was asked if she knew Ms. Brock was a Muslim and she said that she had her suspicions because of the way she was dressed. CSO Rose said that Ms. Brock kept making comments about how she was being profiled because she is a Muslim. CSO Rose said that at no time was Ms. Brock discriminated against, verbally accused of being a terrorist or on a suicide mission. CSO Rose said she heard Ms. Brock yelling so that people could hear her say that she was being discriminated against because she was a Muslim. This interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On August 10, 2015 at approximately 1251 hours I interviewed Detective Jack Losekamp in reference to this incident. He explained that on the day this incident occurred he was on his way court when he was made aware that he needed to meet with Major McGuffey in reference to this incident. He met with Major McGuffey and then they proceeded to the court together and on the way he was briefed about the situation. Upon walking into the Court Service Office he was met by Sergeant Wolfzorn and he once again was briefed about the incident. Sergeant Wolfzorn said that he had advised Ms. Brock about her "Miranda Rights" and he had interviewed her. Detective Losekamp stated that he noticed Ms. Brock sitting on a bench with her Attorney James



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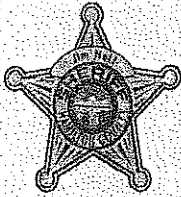
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Brogan. Detective Losekamp said he had stayed the whole time until Ms. Brock left the court house at around 1400 hrs. He said that during the same time there were detectives at the Motel 6 doing a search of her room. He said he was made aware of issues that were going on at the Motel 6 and Ms. Brock needed to be detained until they had completed their investigation. Ms. Brock was told that she was not under arrest but was being detained until the other portion of the investigation was completed. The interview was taped and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On August 10, 2015 at approximately 1259 hours, I interviewed Detective Douglas Todd, and explained that he and Detective Joseph Bennett interviewed Ms. Brock on the day in question. Detective Todd said he was at the court house and he was advised that there was a "bomb threat" inside the court house. He met Sergeant Crock on Main St. and other detectives and then they proceeded to respond to the Court Service Office which is on the second floor inside the court house. Detectives Todd and Bennett interviewed Ms. Brock along with her Attorney, James Bogan. When they were talking to Ms. Brock she wanted to know why she was detained so they explained to her that the officers at the metal detector observed what appeared to be a hand grenade, "pineapple shaped." The officers thought that the item in her suitcase could be dangerous so they made the decision to evacuate the building. Detective Bennett showed Ms. Brock the x-ray photo to show her the outline of the grenade and pointed out the cap at the top and a round little ring that looked like a pull pin on a grenade. After Ms. Brock was told and showed the photo she said "wow." She also said "I got to get rid of that bottle." There also appeared to be ear plugs in the suit case as well. Detective Bennett asked her "can you see what I am talking about?" Her response was "I see what you're talking about". Detective Todd was asked if he knew she was a Muslim and he said "yeah" I think so. Detective Todd was asked if they discriminated against Ms. Brock and he said "No." Detective Todd said they took her downstairs so they could get her luggage and they found out one of the pieces of luggage had been ripped by the robot. Since the luggage was ripped they went out to headquarters to get her a new piece of luggage. At that point she was not detained and she was just waiting for a new suitcase to arrive. Ms. Brock was playing music in the lobby of the court house so they had to ask her numerous times to turn it off. The reason they told her to turn it off was because no one is allowed to play music. Detective Todd said that she would have been able to pray because she was not handcuffed and was not denied the ability to pray. Detective Todd said that they were waiting for word back from the Motel 6, "so it all worked out together." The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file. The recorded interview that took place at the court house with Detectives Todd, Bennett, Ms. Brock and Attorney Bogan is contained in the case file.

On August 10, 2015 at approximately 1309 hours Sergeant Mike Carney, CIS, was interviewed by me. Sergeant Carney said that he was made aware of this incident because Sergeant Crock was contacted by a representative of the "Knock Desk" The "Knock Desk" is located in Washington D.C. their job is to gather information about incidents that could be terrorist acts throughout the country. At that point Sergeants Carney and Crock were unaware of an incident



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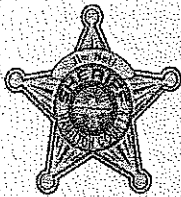
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at the court house. Sergeant Carney was then informed by Lt. Stapleton to form a group of detectives and respond to the Hamilton County Court House. Sergeant Carney said Lt. Stapleton along with other detectives responded to the Motel 6 because that is the location where Ms. Brock stayed the night before this incident. Essentially there were two separate investigations taking place as a result of this incident. During the day there was constant communication between Lt. Stapleton and the Sergeants located at the court house. There was also contact with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office, in order to determine if there would be any criminal charges file. Sergeant Carney said he did not interview Ms. Brock and he never witnessed any discriminating or derogatory remarks made to Ms. Brock. Sergeant Carney said the handcuffs were not on Ms. Brock the entire time, she never asked to pray, he never heard anyone say anything about her being a terrorist, he said she also was taken outside for many smoke breaks, and she never complained about being treated unfairly. Sergeant Carney also told me that at no time did her attorney mention to him that Ms. Brock informed him that she was being treated badly. Sergeant Carney said he explained to Ms. Brock that they were taking her two cellphones for evidence and they would be getting a search warrant for them and then they would be returned to her. He told her how she could retrieve them after the content from her phones was collected. Sergeant Carney said he spoke to her twice once on the day of the incident then a second time the next day and she was not angry and even said that she understood and then took her property and left. Sergeant Carney said that he was informed by Lt. Stapleton that once the room at the Motel 6 was searched they then looked in the dumpster. What they found in the dumpster appeared to be suspicious so they had to call the bomb squad. The box was x-rayed and it had cellphone cords inside of it so they thought it was some kind of a device that had been discarded. The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcript is contained in the case file.

On August 10, 2015 at approximately 1316 hours Sergeant William Crock, CIS, was interviewed by me. Sergeant Crock said that on the day of this incident he received a phone call from a sergeant from the "Fusion Center" out of Miami Florida. The sergeant asked him about a "bomb threat" at the Hamilton County Court House. Sergeant Crock said he was unaware of the incident. After being made aware of the incident he contacted Lt. Stapleton and then they separated in to groups. One group went to the court house and the other group went to the Motel 6, where Ms. Brock had stayed. Sergeant Crock said that when they arrived at the Court Services Office he saw Ms. Brock in an interview room and she did not have handcuffs on. He said he was there a couple of hours and he said while he was there he did not observe or hear anyone do anything to Ms. Brock that would be considered unprofessional. Ms. Brock was not denied prayer time, he never heard anyone put down the Muslim religion, and he never heard anyone say that she was a terrorist or going to kill people. Sergeant Crock said that he spoke with Mark Piepmeier and Seth Tieger at the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office and jointly they decided to not file any criminal charges. Sergeant Crock said that the "Bomb Squad" had to tear Ms Brock's suitcase and he observed officers putting her belongings in a bag and he told the officers to stop. He said that he knew there were suitcases at Headquarters so he ordered a "Bomb Squad" officer to respond to headquarters in order to retrieve one for Ms. Brock. The



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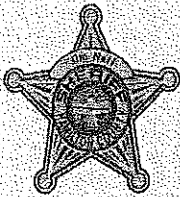


interview with Sergeant Crock was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On August 10, 2015 at approximately 1345 hours, Detective Joseph Bennett, CIS, was interviewed by me. Detective Bennett said he became involved in this incident when Sergeant Crock asked him to respond to the Hamilton County Court House regarding a bomb threat. He said he responded to room 260, which is the Court Service office and he was told that is where Ms. Brock was being held. Sergeant Crock asked Detectives Bennett and Todd to interview Ms. Brock. The interview took place in a room and Ms. Brock's attorney, James Bogan was present. When the interview started Detective Bennett said that he was still unaware if the item that was found was an explosive device. Detective Bennett asked her if anyone else had touched her luggage and she said "no." Detective Bennett showed her a picture of the x-ray which showed the suspicious item and explained to her why the Court Service Officers had taken her luggage and pulled her aside. As she was looking at the photo Detective Bennett said he was explaining to her what a "pineapple" grenade looks like. He said that she agreed with him that the item in the photo looked like what he was describing. During this interview Detective Bennett said that he offered her and her attorney something to drink and the handcuffs were not on her. Detective Bennett said that Ms. Brock never asked to pray during the time that he was with her. Detective Bennett was asked if he ever called her a terrorist or put down her Muslim religion and he said "no." Detective Bennett said that at the beginning of the interview Ms. Brock was a little standoffish but as the interview progressed she opened up. He said that her attorney James Bogan told her to relax. Detective Bennett said that at one point she said she needed to get rid of "that perfume bottle." Detective Bennett said she was treated with respect and after the interview was completed she was detained until they were given the "go ahead" from Lt. Stapleton, who was directing the investigation at the Motel 6. He said Ms. Brock seemed to be okay and understood why she was being detained. The interview was recorded and a copy of the transcription is contained in the case file.

On September 18, 2015 I spoke briefly with Attorney James Bogan about this incident while in the lobby area of the HCJC south building. He was asked if he heard any officers say anything inappropriate to Ms. Brock and he said "no." He was asked if at any time she was denied prayer time and he said that not while he was with her. Attorney Brogan was asked if she was treated unfairly by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office deputies and he said not that he saw. He understood the seriousness of this incident.

I request that this case be closed as not sustained, due to the fact that there is no evidence to support Ms. Brock's complaints against the personnel that detained her. The deputies as well as five witnesses that were in room 115 when Ms. Brock was being escorted through their office denied hearing any inappropriate comments made by Sheriff Deputies. Ms. Brock's attorney, James Bogan did not hear deputies say anything inappropriate to her. Ms. Brock stated that she was denied prayer time and according to everyone interviewed including her attorney, James Bogan, she never asked to pray. Ms. Brock was taken to the restroom twice by CSO Emily




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Rose, and she was taken to the vending area as well. Ms. Brock was also afforded the opportunity to smoke. Ms. Brock was upset about the length of time she was detained but considering the totality of the circumstance, I believe the amount of time Ms. Brock was detained was reasonable. The deputies involved had to secure the scene, evacuate the building, locate Ms. Brock's attorney, James Bogan, and interview her. Detectives from the Criminal Investigation Section had to respond from outlining areas and investigate the incident. The "Bomb Squad" had to respond to the court house and confirm that there was no threat. Then they had to respond to the Motel 6, where Ms. Brock had stayed the night before. During the search of the Motel 6 detectives located a suspicious package in the dumpster. During the search of Ms. Brock's suitcase, it was ripped while removing suspicious items, so a member of the "Bomb Squad" responded to The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office headquarters to retrieve a new suitcase. The officer had to respond back to the court house with the suitcase, which took time. All of the time Ms. Brock was detained was justified however the time involved could have been shorten if she would have cooperated fully. The deputies involved in this incident performed their duties very well considering the chaos that could have occurred. If this device would have been a real explosive and it would have gone off, countless people could have been injured or even died. This would not have only involved citizens but also officers, attorneys, judges and civilian employees. The public would have been out raged that the deputies did not locate the device at the metal detectors. Ms. Brock's credibility is questionable due to the fact that I only asked her one question and she immediately lied by replying "no" when she asked if she had ever been in the court house prior to this incident. Deputy Pendleton said that Ms. Brock had been in the court house on other occasions and there had not been a problem. Ms. Brock said she was singled out because she was dressed like a Muslim. Everyday there are people from different cultures that dress differently than others and there has never been a problem. Also Ms. Brock had never had an issue coming into the court house prior to this day.

Respectfully submitted


Sergeant Steve Minnich

CHS - Minnich 10-13-15
(Reviewed and Copied)